Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: A sum of Rs. 3,000 has been contributed by the Cranganur Principality to the H. M. I. S. Cochin Fund.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur)*: Will the Government kindly give us some information about the bulk of the collection from the public of Cranganur towards this item?

Mr. President: The question only refers to the contribution from the Cranganur Principality.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur)*: I was asking for some information about the bulk of the collection from the public of Cranganur.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: I want notice.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur)*: Is it the case of the Hon'ble Revenue Member that he is unable to say that there has been an appreciable collection, made from Cranganur?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: I do not know. I do not think we have got separate accounts with reference to each Taluk.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur)*: The hon'ble member have been in the more all the while if he thinks that a Taluk war statement of the collection is not available. *(Laughter)*

RESERVE FOREST TRANSFERRED AS REVENUE PORAMBOKE

10. Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Will Government be pleased to state the number of acres of Reserve Forest transferred as Revenue *Poramboke* and leased for food cultivation under the Food Production Scheme?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests)*: Under the Food Production Scheme no Reserve Forest was transferred as Revenue *Poramboke*.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET

Mr. President: Today and the forenoon of tomorrow will be devoted to general discussion by non-official members. The afternoon of tomorrow will be reserved for replies by the official members. The time for speeches by non-official members will be limited to 20 minutes, as laid down in Legislative Council Rule 54 (3).

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural)*: Mr. President, Sir, I whole-heartedly congratulate the Government on their being able to present in these turbulous times a surplus budget providing without stint adequately for all departments and munificently for war purposes. It is gratifying to note that increased provision is made for nation building departments. In the budget there are very many salutary signs of the success of diarchy in this regime.

It is not sufficient that large sums are allotted. It depends upon how they are expended. Herein comes the ability of the person who holds the strings of the purse. It may make or mar his career. It should be the aim of the Hon'ble Minister to make the villages the centre of community life. He should not be satisfied with the advancement in one direction or the other. His aim should be to have an all-round development that villages may become self-sufficient and self protecting. These can be had by the improvement of agriculture and the starting of industries especially rural. The signs are not wanting for these in the budget. Only no attempt is proposed for large scale industries perhaps because the time is not propitious owing to war.

The Government in spite of the experience they recently had is shy to take in hand the formation of a militia even to give military training in Colleges and Schools. The Government must now have felt the difficulty in getting the civic guards trained. They had to indent on outside help in very small delinquencies. How grand and easy their action and how hilarious their attitude would have been if they had at hand trained men to conscript. Thus the unnecessary expense we have at present and the contumely we are under, could have been avoided. Will the Government take a lesson at least now and rise to the occasion and give a start to military training in our colleges and schools.

The cry is "grow more food." Without this cry the people are for growing more crops. But with all sorts of impediments put in their way by the Government they could not. To name only one or two of the impediments—To grow more food there must be more lands. The lands disafforested (only lands available for cultivation) they cannot go in for due to the high rate of tax fixed for it. Where settled lands under cultivation have a tax of below Re. 1 an acre, the adjacent disafforested land is taxed at Rs. 2—8—0 per acre. The price fixed per acre together with the amount necessary to make it fit for cultivation is so high that the rent will be scarcely sufficient for the charges on it. Then how "grow more food". The sooner this heavy impost is reduced the better. The ryots are penalised if they raise a second crop in lands settled as single croplands. There is no enquiry if the crops had been successfully harvested.

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